

FREEDOM FROM FACEBOOK POTENTIAL FUNDING

Recently, a number of progressive groups came together to form the Freedom From Facebook campaign which has a six-figure ad budget. It is not clear who is providing the large amount of funding for the campaign but at least four of the groups in the coalition receive funding or are aligned with George Soros who has publicly criticized Facebook. It is very possible that Soros is funding Freedom From Facebook.

A PROGRESSIVE COALITION AGAINST FACEBOOK

Recently, A Coalition Of Progressive Groups, Including Open Markets Institute, MoveOn Civic Action, SumofUs, And Citizens Against Monopoly, Came Together To Create A Freedom From Facebook Coalition

The Campaign “Freedom From Facebook” Is A Coalition Of Progressive Organizations, Including The Open Markets Institute, MoveOn Civic Action, And SumofUs. “The campaign, dubbed ‘Freedom from Facebook,’ calls for the FTC to spin off WhatsApp, Instagram, and Messenger into separate businesses, to develop ‘interoperability standards,’ which let users communicate between different social networks, and to give users more control over their data. The strongly worded petition says Facebook ‘unilaterally decides the news,’ ‘buys up or bankrupts potential competitors,’ ‘tracks us almost everywhere we go,’ and works to ‘figure out how to addict us’ to its services. The coalition includes the The Open Markets Institute, a small nonprofit that made waves after its founders were ousted from the New America Foundation. It also includes George Soros-funded MoveOn Civic Action, SumofUs, Jewish Voice for Peace, and others.” (Hanna Kozlowska, “Progressive Groups Want The US Government To Break Up Facebook,” *Quartz*, 5/21/18)

The Freedom From Facebook Coalition Also Includes Citizens Against Monopoly And Demand Progress. “Privacy and anti-monopoly advocacy groups launched the Freedom from Facebook campaign on Monday, demanding that the Federal Trade Commission force the social media giant to break up into four separate companies. Sensing a moment of weakness, activists hope to establish stronger privacy protections and cross-platform communication. ... A coalition of groups that includes Demand Progress, Move On, Citizens Against Monopoly and the Open Markets Institute sees an opportunity.” (Rhett Jones, “The Movement To Break Up Facebook Has Begun,” *Gizmodo*, 4/21/18)

“The ‘Freedom From Facebook’ Campaign Has A Six-Figure Budget, According To Axios, And Will Run Ads With Messages Like ‘Facebook Keeps Violating Your Privacy. Break It Up.’ On Twitter, Facebook, And Instagram.” (Aaron Mak, “Progressive Groups Launch Ad Campaign To Break Up Facebook,” *Slate*, 5/21/18)

GEORGE SOROS CONNECTION

Many Of The Groups In The Freedom From Facebook Coalition Are Funded By George Soros

The Open Markets Institute Is Funded By George Soros’ Open Society Foundation

The Open Markets Institute Was Started After It Was Kicked Out Of The New America Foundation, A Center-Left Organization Funded Partly By Google. “Lynn is executive director at the Open Markets Institute, a nonprofit in Washington that he founded last year after being forced out of the New America Foundation, a left-leaning think tank funded in part by Google Inc. The move came after Lynn praised an antitrust fine levied against Google by the European Union. New America blamed Lynn’s departure on his ‘repeated refusal to adhere to New America’s standards

of openness and institutional collegiality.’ Lynn says he was fired for his views on Google. Whatever the reason, Lynn took with him a handful of New America researchers and policy advocates to start Open Markets.” (David McLaughlin, “this Antitrust Movement Targets Power Instead,” [Bloomberg](#), 1/17/18)

“[Open Markets Executive Director Barry] Lynn Says The Organization Receives No Money From For-Profit Companies, And That Its Funders Include George Soros’s Open Society Foundation.” (David McLaughlin, “this Antitrust Movement Targets Power Instead,” [Bloomberg](#), 1/17/18)

- In October 2017, It Was Disclosed That Soros Donated \$18 Billion To His Philanthropic Organization, Open Society Foundations Over Several Years.** “George Soros, the billionaire hedge fund manager and a major Democratic donor, has given \$18 billion to his Open Society Foundations, one of the largest transfers of wealth ever made by a private donor to a single foundation. The gift, made quietly over the past several years but disclosed only on Tuesday, has transformed Open Society into the second-biggest philanthropic organization in the United States, behind the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.” (David Gelles, “George Soros Transfers Billions To Open Society Foundations,” [The New York Times](#), 10/17/18)

Citizens Against Monopoly Was Set Up By Open Markets

Open Markets Set Up Citizens Against Monopoly. “Google’s tactics will not work. Our organization, Open Markets, is going independent. And we are launching a campaign called Citizens Against Monopoly, where we will ask Google’s CEO to stop this manipulation of our public commons.” (Matt Stoller, “Citizens Against Monopoly,” [HuffPost](#), 8/31/17)

SumOfUs Partners With Soros’ Open Society Foundations And Tides Foundation, Which Is Partially Funded By Soros

SumOfUs Partners With George Soros’ Open Society Foundations And The Tides Foundation, Which He Contributes To. “SumOfUs also partners with a number of foundations and NGO groups, including Tides Foundation, Chorus Foundation, BetterWorld, Changing Markets, General Service Foundation, Hull Family Foundation, Open Society Foundations, Packard Foundation, Public Welfare Foundation, Rockefeller Brothers Foundation, Voqal Foundation, Wallace Global Fund, Funders for Fair Trade, Media Democracy Fund, Robert W. Deutsch Foundation, New Venture Fund.” (How We’re Funded,” [SumOfUS](#), Accessed 5/21/18)

- In 2016, George Soros’ Open Society Foundations Provided The Tides Foundation With Seven Grants Totaling \$4.1 Million.** (“Grants Database,” [Open Society Foundations](#), Accessed 3/27/18)

Soros Has Funded MoveOn.Org

Soros Has Given Millions Of Dollars To MoveOn.Org. “Adding to this, Soros’ foundation also announced last October a \$1 million grant to Media Matters, a liberal activist group with a goal to hold Fox News (no fan of NPR) accountable. Soros has also given millions of dollars to other liberal groups, including MoveOn.org and the Center for American Progress.” (Alicia C. Shepard, “Worthy Cause, Controversial Funding Source,” [NPR](#), 5/24/11)

SOROS IS OPPOSED TO FACEBOOK

Soros Has Criticized Facebook And Google In The Past

Soros “Attacked” Facebook And Alphabet, Google’s Parent Company At The World Economic Forum In Davos. “George Soros, the liberal billionaire financier, has ramped up his criticism of major tech companies despite investing millions into companies he has singled out such as Facebook and Alphabet, Google’s parent company. Soros, who attacked the companies at the World Economic Forum meeting in Davos, says he is looking into ways to counter the influence of big tech.” (Joe Schoffstall, “Soros Profited Off Major Tech Companies He Now Attacks,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 2/23/18)

Soros Accused Facebook And Google Of Becoming “Obstacles To Innovation” And Causing A Variety Of Problems. “The rise and monopolistic behavior of the giant American internet platform companies is contributing mightily to the U.S. government’s impotence,’ Soros wrote in an op-ed. ‘These companies have often played an innovative and liberating role. But as Facebook and Google have grown ever more powerful, they have become obstacles to innovation, and have caused a variety of problems of which we are only now beginning to become aware.”” (Joe Schöffstall, “Soros Profited Off Major Tech Companies He Now Attacks,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 2/23/18)